

LOOK TO THE EAST

Diplomats Are All Interested in Chinese Situation.

CAREFULLY WATCH COURSE OF EVENTS

Well Settled that This Country Will Take No Part.

DISINTERESTED SPECTATOR AT PRESENT

Partition of China Might Result in a Change of Ease.

PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IS ANTICIPATED

Believed that Russia Will Prevent Dismemberment of the Empire to Protect Its Own Interests.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The rapid movement of events in the far east continues to be an absorbing topic in diplomatic circles here, particularly at the embassies and legation of the powers which are aligned for an apparent struggle for Chinese territory.

At the same time an eminent authority on international affairs said today that a situation might develop when the United States would be called upon to go much further than protect American interests at the treaty ports in China. This situation would come, he said, if a scramble for Chinese territory went to the extent of the extinction of China and the complete absorption of the old empire by foreign nations.

Poland had established a precedent in international affairs, he said, and following that precedent, if China was to be absorbed, then it was a question which the United States, in common with the nations of the world, must take cognizance of.

FRANCE NOW MAKES ANOTHER GRAB Its Flag is Hoisted Over Hai Nan Island.

SHANGHAI, Dec. 29.—It is reported here that the admiral of the French fleet has hoisted the French flag on Hai Nan Island. The Chinese offered no opposition.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Singapore confirms the report of the admiral of the French fleet that he has hoisted the French flag on Hai Nan Island, and separates the Gulf of Tonquin from the Chinese empire. It has an estimated area of 12,000 square miles and a population of 1,000,000 Chinese, exclusive of wild tribes in the interior.

WAR THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE. LONDON, Dec. 29.—A dispatch from Peking says: "The proposed arrangement for a Russian loan of 4 per cent loan of 100,000,000 taels is not yet ratified."

Partitions is not involved. A leading Japanese diplomat said today: "I do not look at the question as involving the partition of China, and no event has occurred thus far to indicate that China is about to be divided among the powers."

RUSSIA'S ACTION PEACEFUL. Another Japanese diplomat said: "All the powers have known for the last year that a secret treaty was made last year between Russia and China by which Russia was to have the right to winter its fleet at Port Arthur. For that reason the presence of the Russian fleet at Port Arthur does not lead other nations to fear that Russia has begun a movement of territorial aggression on China."

CHINA'S ACTION PEACEFUL. A Chinese diplomat said: "The alleged official statements coming from the Chinese legation have been unwarranted, as the legation has not received a word from Peking since the first notice was sent that a German force had landed at Kiao Chau without previous notice to the Chinese government."

AMICABLE SETTLEMENT EXPECTED. "As to the Russian fleet at Port Arthur, that is not a surprise. A Russian fleet was wintered at a Chinese port last winter, with the consent of China, as it involved no sacrifice of territory. What the outcome will be is difficult to say, but it is felt that an amicable settlement will be made, possibly by the granting of coast stations, but without any serious dismemberment of territory."

RECIPROCITY MUST WAIT. Sidetracked, for a Time at Least, by the Sealing Question.

ALL THE COLONIES SHOULD BE TAKEN IN. England Wants Some Assurance the Convention Will Be Ratified Before Undertaking an Arbitration Convention.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British ambassador, has about recovered from a long and painful attack of rheumatism, which has kept him in bed for a good part of the last three months. The fact that he was able to call at the State department yesterday led to reports that, coincident with Lord Salisbury's destination of the proposition to stop pelagic sealing, Sir Julian had renewed reciprocity negotiations. His call, however, had no such significance, as Sir Julian did not know of Lord Salisbury's answer at the time he visited the State department. As to the reciprocity negotiations, they have progressed steadily through Mr. Adam, first secretary of the embassy, and Sir Julian will now be able to give the matter personal attention.

SEAL DIFFICULTY IN THE WAY. In this connection it may be stated that Mr. Kasson, the special commissioner of the United States charged with the conduct of the negotiations of reciprocity arrangements and treaties under the tariff act, has not undertaken to consider the subject of reciprocity with Canada. This intention on the part of Mr. Kasson is attributable to the fact that the subject of reciprocity, pure and simple, as described in the tariff act, has become so involved with the seal question and other issues as to become practically inseparable from them, and so the entire subject of Canadian relations appears to remain in the control of ex-Secretary Foster.

THE BEE BULLETIN. Weather Forecast for Nebraska: Fair; Colder; Northwesterly Wind.

THE WORLD'S EYES TURNED TOWARD CHINA. Reciprocity Must Wait for Seals. Pope Mixes in the Spanish Mess.

POPE'S FINGER IN THE PIE. His Holiness Takes a Hand in Spain's Cuban Mess.

ISSUES A WARNING TO THE CARLISTS. Powerful Influence of the Vatican is Again Exerted to Save Failing Fortunes of the Present Dynasty.

THEATRICALS BY MARLBOROUGH. Duke and Duchess Don the Sock and Hunkin.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—A special to the Journal and Advertiser from Washington says: It is current news in Catholic circles that on Christmas day the pope made a very important communication to the Spanish government concerning the Cuban war and the attitude of the Vatican toward Spain in the present crisis.

About three weeks ago it became known that it had been represented to the pope through the usual channels of information on this side of the Atlantic that the cause of the war was lost to Cuba. This was so powerfully influencing European opinion that the pope took occasion on Christmas to address an important communication to his nuncio at Madrid. The pope declares emphatically that the Vatican upholds every form of legal government which is not anti-Christian in its character. He proceeds then to discuss the Spanish situation and calls the Carlists to account, stating that, no less than other subjects of Spain, owe implicit allegiance to the reigning monarchy and must not attempt to use the cloak of religion to cover purposes that are ulterior to the proper aims and objects of the church.

Following this pronouncement the pope deals with the existing war and sends his especial blessing to the soldiers of the king of Spain.

Discussing the Cuban question, the positive statement is made that the Vatican has never made any move that could be construed into an approval of the Cuban cause or disapproval of the conduct of Spain. It has suggested that possibly the rigors of war should be mitigated, but under no circumstances has it uttered a word that might tend to encourage the parried and fratricidal strife.

Notwithstanding this minimizing the pronouncement is a distinct victory for the foreign dynasty. The whole influence of the Austrian court was thrown into the balance to bring it about. Christians, the queen regent, is a Hapsburg prince and for her sake and the love the pope bears his golden powerful influence of the Vatican in Spain has been again exerted to save the falling fortunes of the present dynasty.

THINKS IT MEANS INTERVENTION. Thomas Estrada Palma Takes an Optimistic View.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—President General Blanco's acceptance of President McKinley's request that the American people be permitted to relieve the sufferings of the concentrados in Cuba is tantamount to acceptance of the offer of intervention by the United States in the conflict so long in progress between the people of Cuba and the Spanish government.

READY TO ADVANCE ON SAMORY. French Will Make War on a Troublesome Chief.

PARIS, Dec. 29.—The French, it is announced, have decided to make a military expedition against Chief Samory in the West African chiefdom. For over twelve years past has been the most dangerous antagonist the Europeans have had to deal with. After ten years of guerrilla warfare he was driven out of the Soudan, but he made a swoop upon the fertile region of Kong, a dependency of the French Ivory company. Since then Chief Samory has repeatedly been heard from. In August last his forces surprised and routed a detachment of French troops sent to occupy the territory which, it is said, Samory had offered to vacate.

THREE THOUSAND LEFT HOMELESS. PORT AU PRINCE, Hayti, Dec. 29.—At 11 o'clock last night a fire, which assumed a considerable proportion on account of lack of water to supply the pumps, broke out and destroyed 800 houses, including a number of warehouses, a hotel, the church of St. Joseph and his paragon. About 3,000 people were rendered homeless.

COMBINE SEALS AND RECIPROCITY. England Plays One for Advantages in the Other.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: Coincident with the rejection by Lord Salisbury of the latest proposition submitted to him by Ambassador Hay, Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British ambassador in Washington, has renewed reciprocity negotiations with Special Commissioner Kasson. Some officials of the administration believe that on the linking of the reciprocity and sealing questions depends the final decision of Great Britain on both. Sir Julian Pauncefote's discussion with Special Commissioner Kasson related to the reciprocity treaty giving the West India possessions of Great Britain the advantages of the minimum tariff allowed by the Dingley tariff law.

CONTRACTORS GO TO NICARAGUA. Preparing to Make Bids on Construction of the Canal.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—When the Panama Steamship Finance sails down the bay on Friday it will have on board fourteen of the most prominent contractors in the United States, who will go to Nicaragua to inspect the survey of the proposed canal. If the work is deemed practical these men will form a company and bid for the job. The party is under the direction of E. F. Cragin and E. L. Cooley, chief engineer of the Chicago drainage canal. Most of the contractors were associated with Mr. Cooley in that immense undertaking.

Member of Parliament Drowned. PETERBORO, Ont., Dec. 29.—John Burke, P. C., member of parliament, was drowned in the Otanberry river last night.

Movements of Ocean Vessels, Dec. 29. At New York—Sailed—St. Paul, for Southampton; Majestic, for Liverpool; Kensington, for Antwerp.

At Liverpool—Arrived—Corinthia, from Boston.

At Southampton—Arrived—Eagle, from New York; Bremen, New York, from New York.

At Marseilles—Arrived—Scandia, from New York.

At Copenhagen—Passed—Britannic, for New York.

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